

GIVING YOU THE BEST THAT I GOT





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#### CONTENTS

GIVING YOU THE BEST THAT I GOT 4

GOOD ENOUGH 25

GOOD LOVE 31

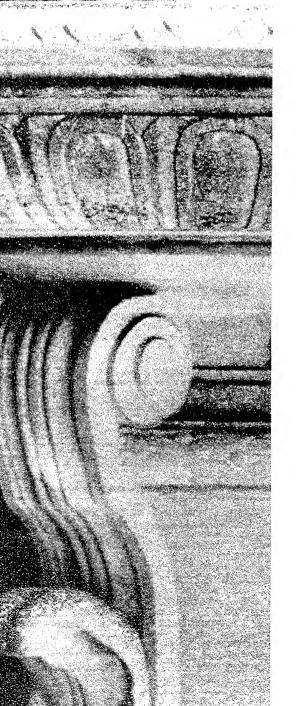
JUST BECAUSE 36

LEAD ME INTO LOVE 44

PRICELESS 41

RULES 9

YOU BELONG TO ME 13



## GIVING YOU THE BEST THAT I GOT

Words and Music by ANITA BAKER, SKIP SCARBOROUGH and RANDY HOLLAND

Ain't there something I can give you In exchange for everything you give to me Read my mind and make me feel just fine When I think my peace of mind is out of reach

The scales are sometimes unbalanced And you bear the weight of all that has to be I hope you see that you can lean on me And together we can calm a stormy sea

We love so strong and so unselfishly
They don't bother me so I'm gonna keep on
Giving you the best that I got, baby
They don't bother me, said I'm gonna keep on
Giving you the best that I got, listen baby

Everybody's got opinions 'Bout the way they think our story's gonna end Some folks feel it's just a superficial thrill Everybody's gonna have to think again

We love so strong and so unselfishly
They don't bother me so I'm gonna keep on
Giving you the best that I got, baby
They don't bother me, said I'm gonna keep on
Giving you the best that I got, listen baby

Somebody understands me Somebody gave his heart to me I stumbled my whole life long Always on my own, now I'm home

My weary mind is rested And I feel as if my home is in your arms Fears are all gone, I like the sound of your song And I think I want to sing it forever

We love so strong and so unselfishly
And I made a vow so I tell you now
I'm giving you the best that I got, baby
I bet everything on my wedding ring
I'm giving you the best that I got, givin' it to you baby

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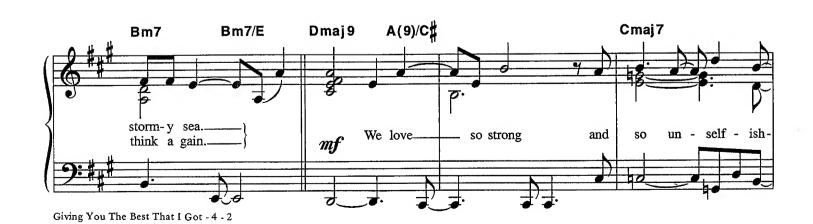
## GIVING YOU THE BEST THAT I GOT

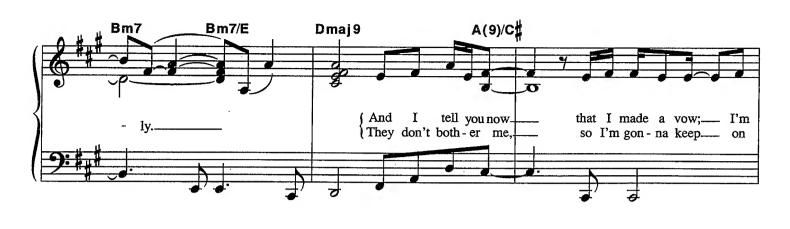


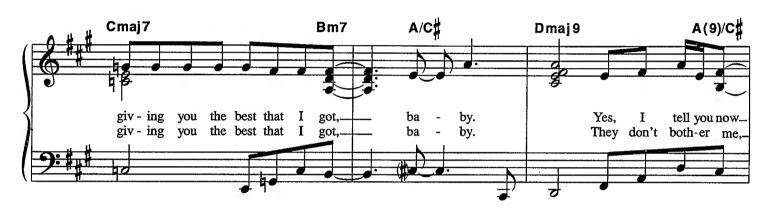


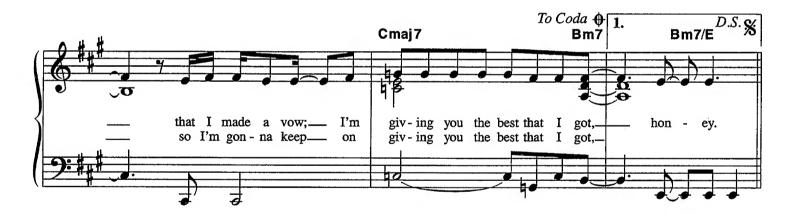


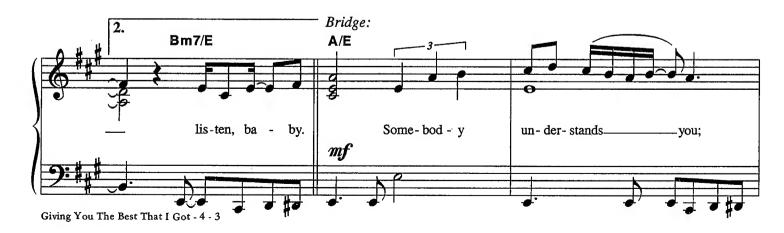














My weary mind is rested, And I feel as if my home is in your arms. Fears are all gone, I like the sound of your song, And I think I want to sing it forever.

We love so strong and so unselfishly, And I made a vow, so I tell you now; I'm giving you the best that I got, baby. I bet everything on my wedding ring; I'm giving you the best that I got, givin'it to you, baby.

(To Coda:)

#### RULES

Words and Music by MAGGIE RYDER, PHIL NICHOLL and GRAHAM LAMB

Love was meant to be loving So many times we don't give, we take Love has really no conception of this rule

Days you gave me were numbered And as a rule they were hard to take All it took was the number of a fool

Rules were made to be broken So many hearts break the same way too, aw baby I said that you ain't no exception to the rule, yes sir

Your answer begging my question It seems I left you too late to ask Was this really your intention From the start

The nights you left me are empty, baby As for the answer they changed the past I tried to let you explain your change of heart How could you change your mind

Rules were made to be broken So many hearts break the same way too, aw honey I said that you ain't no exception to the rule

How could they say It would be better this way... without you When by the usual rules I kept presuming that you would stay, baby

So many hearts break the same way too, now mister I said that you ain't no exception to the rule You...

Gonna get on my bad heart Just like everybody asks you You've gotta help, baby You've gotta help me convert too

You better hear what I'm tellin' you

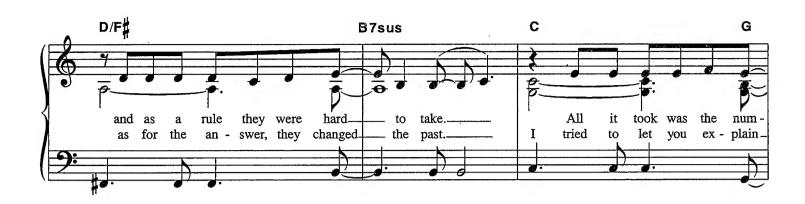
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## RULES

Words and Music by MAGGIE RYDER, PHIL NICHOLL and GRAHAM LAMB

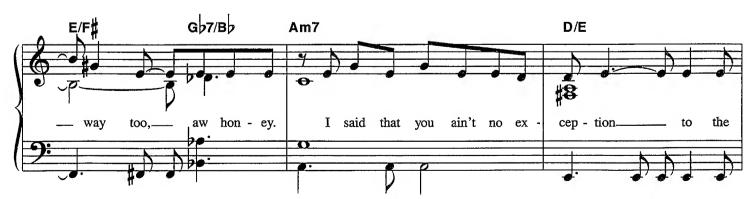


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Rules - 3 - 2



### YOU BELONG TO ME

Words and Music by GRAHAM LYLE, TERRY BRITTEN and BILLY LIVSEY

I need you near me Need you to be there I can't let go of you now

Nobody loves you Like I can love you I'll just keep holding on somehow

I give nothing less Than my very best And I'm staking my claim to your heart, your heart

Chorus:
You belong
You belong to me
You know this love of mine is guaranteed
You belong
You belong
You belong to me, baby, baby
Now and forever it will always be

You know where to find me, you know I'll be there Baby, I'm hooked on your line
Then I'm reminded your world is calling
I play a part on the sidelines

My role is to wait and anticipate

That moment that you walk through my door, my door

#### Repeat Chorus

Maybe I have no rights, child But when your arms are holding me tight Your kisses tell me all I want to know I got one problem, I can't let you go

And your kissin' tells me all I want to know I got this problem babe, I can't let you go

#### Repeat Chorus

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## YOU BELONG TO ME

Words and Music by GRAHAM LYLE, TERRY BRITTEN and BILLY LIVSEY



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You Belong To Me - 4 - 3



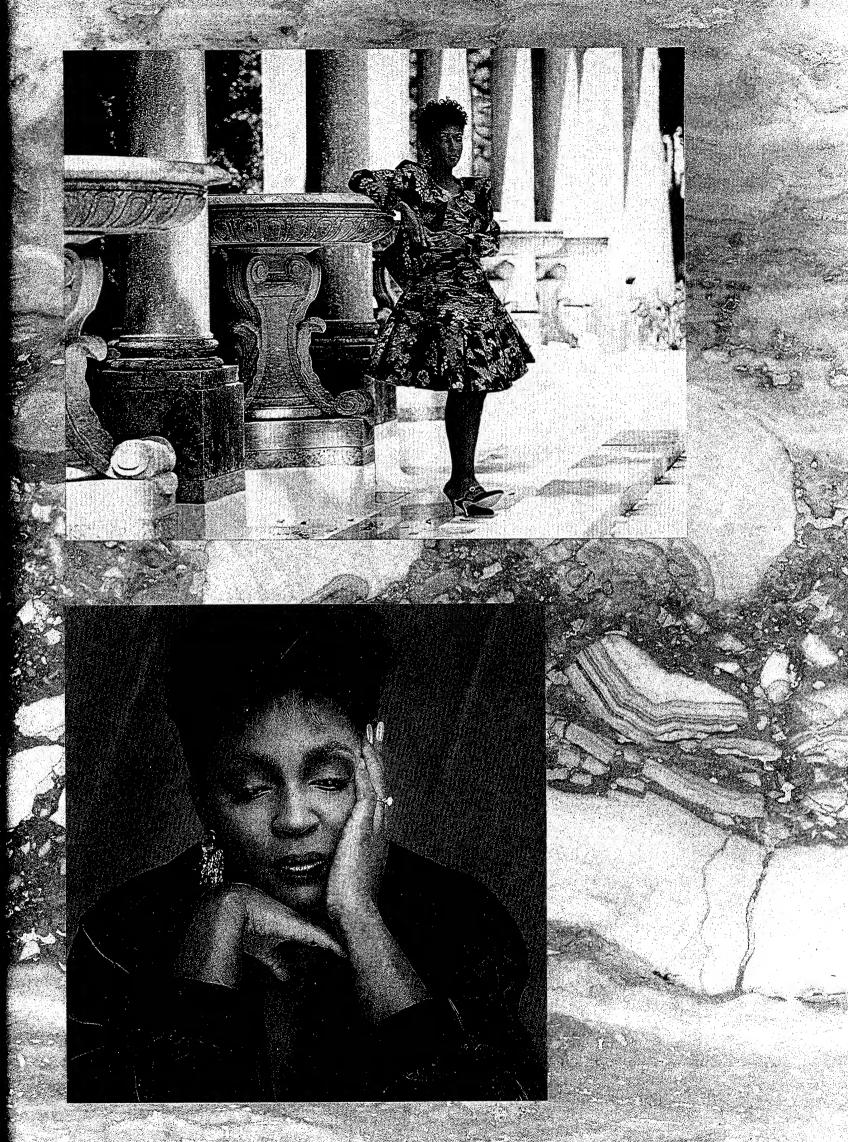
Every moment we share is stolen (feel in my heart); Nothing's so precious as time (you don't love me). Then I'mreminded your world is calling (I play a part); I play a part on the sidelines (I wait for you).

My role is to wait, anticipating the minute you walk through my door. (*To Chorus:*)

You Belong To Me - 4 - 4











# Anta Baker

Anita Baker doesn't think she's a singer. "To me a singer is somebody who can take any song and sing it," she says. "I can't do that. I have to personalize a song. I have to fit it to me. Personalizing means fixing a song so I can take it from A to Z. It's got to have drama. Whether it's a quiet, understated melodrama or it's a slap-you-in-your-face drama. A song's gonna have moments."

For someone who's "not a singer" Anita's comments suggest that the lady knows a great deal about the art of singing, a fact clear to any of the five million people who purchased her landmark 1986 release <u>Rapture</u>. It's ironic that Baker, one of the most distinctive voices of the decade, is so self-effacing since both her pure vocal ability and technical understanding of songs are unique.

Anita's special place in American music is confirmed by her second Elektra album, Giving You The Best That I Got. Again, serving as executive producer with producer Michael Powell, Anita displays her talent on sultry r&b, supple samba and bluesy jazz. As Rapture led Billboard critic Nelson George to coin the phrase "retro nuevo" ("an artful blend of graceful contemporary production with a traditional black music sensibility") to describe her approach, Giving will affirm for critics and listeners that Baker is a musical personality whose impact will be felt throughout the '90's.

Out of some 200 songs considered, Baker whittled the number down to 15 and then down to the final eight "moments" that comprise Giving. On side one Garry Glenn, co-writer of Rapture, contributes "Priceless," a comfortable mid-tempo track who's effectiveness is aided by ex-Motown arranger Paul Riser's string chart. "Lead Me Into Love" opens with Baker dueting with George Duke's acoustic piano before building into a stellar pop ballad. The title track composed by Baker, Randy Holland and Skip Scarborough (writer of Earth, Wind & Fire classic "Can't Hide Love"), is an audacious, semi-autobiographical love song highlighted by Baker's thoughtful phrasing and Sir Gant's tasty piano solo. "Good Love," penned by Virgin Records signee Gary Taylor, has a sexy mood created by Synclavier bass and drum tracks, and Baker's own husky background vocals.



Side two opens with "Rules," a meditation on the loss of a lover, that with a lesser singer could have been a wimpy tearjerker, but Baker's voice molds into a celebration of this woman's self-worth. The samba "Good Enough" is one of the album's highlights with Gerald Albright's saxophone, journalist-turned-songwriter James McBride's melody, and Baker's ecstatic interpretation. On "Just Because" Baker testifies to love's intensity with the open-hearted enthusiasm that has become her trademark. Giving closes with "You Belong To Me," a tune written by the British team of Graham Lyle, Terry Britten and Billy Livsey, that with its inventive synthesizer programming creates a techno-pop sound that contrasts nicely with Anita's always natural delivery.

Anita's musical career began at age 12 when she began singing around Detroit with her grandfather, a traveling minister. Her introduction into secular music came when she started listening to Detroit's WJZZ and began gigging with "basement bands" formed by classmates and choir members, singing everything from jazz standards to Led Zeppelin (she does a great version of "The Immigrant Song"). After high school she spent the next two years moving from band to band until a member of Chapter 8, then one of Detroit's top club bands, invited her to audition.

Looking back Baker recalls, "Everything I learned about music I learned from that band." Her on-going relationship with Chapter 8 had a short and long term impact on her career: she made her recording debut with Chapter 8 in 1980 and sang lead on the minor hit "I Just Wanna Be Your Girl"; which began a friendship with keyboardist Michael Powell that would years later culminate in <u>Rapture</u> and <u>Giving You The Best That I Got</u>.

After Chapter 8 was dropped by Ariola, a discouraged Baker spent a few years as a legal secretary before recording <a href="The Songstress">The Songstress</a> for a Los Angeles based independent label. That album spawned the top ten black single "Angel" and first made a national audience aware of her jazz-r&b synthesis. A conflict with that company led to a law suit and inactivity for Baker until she was signed to Elektra by Chairman Bob Krasnow.



Trusted with creative control of the project, Baker executive-produced an album that won Grammys for R&B Female Vocalist and R&B Song of the Year ("Sweet Love"); was designated best female singer in Rolling Stone's critics poll and best new female singer in that magazine's fan poll; and garnered either awards or nominations from every significant musical competition in the United States and overseas.

A marathon tour of the United States and Europe followed, which included a triumphant appearance at the Montreaux Jazz Festival, where she performed a set that included music associated with Billie Holiday and Van Morrison. At Montreaux she worked with George Duke, who serves as her musical director. Her only recorded performance since <u>Rapture</u>, the duet with the fellow Detroiters The Winans, "Ain't No Need To Worry," won a Grammy for best gospel performance by duo or group.

Unlike a lot of "recording artists," Baker is a student of the singing art who deeply understands the intricacies of her voice. So when Baker seems to be improvising her song order on stage it's because "I wait for my voice to be ready to sing certain songs." The intimacy of her voice on record is partially a by-product of "recording with two microphones." "One feeds into the console, the other into my headset because I like room sound. That allows me to hear how I'm really sounding as opposed to hearing my voice interpreted by the microphone."

Finally, to understand Baker's committment, you have to know that she, in total disregard of current superstar singer norms, is in the studio during the entire recording process, singing along with the musicians as the basic tracks are cut. In an era when most singers are so divorced from the recording process they are said to "phone in" their voices, Baker's attitude is so old fashioned it's progressive. She ackowledges, "Sometimes the musicians don't want me in there, but I'm there. There is a relationship between the singer, musician and the song you just can't get when the singer is alone in an isolated room." What it boils down to is Anita Baker, again giving it the best she's got.

### GOOD ENOUGH

Words and Music by JAMES McBRIDE and ANITA BAKER

Ah, you can count on me for anything you choose Say, but the best that I can offer is love true Still I know you wonder why this love of mine seems to die As if I live in the clouds and you live in the sea

Now you can bet your bottom dollar that I love Now for a basic fact like that you'll need no clue I just hope you think I'm good enough I hope you think I'm girl enough I hope you believe in chemistry for two

I really do - I do My my baby - I'm telling you, honey

For your love baby, said I would walk through fire For this love honey, said I would reach my highest ground For this love baby, there ain't nothin' that could turn me around I'll never let you down

For your love baby, I'd take a walk through fire For this love honey, said I would reach my highest ground For your love baby, there ain't nothing that could turn me...

I'd die for your love, lie for your love I'd even touch the sky for your love

Baby, bet your bottom dollar that I'm gonna love you Said for a basic fact like that you'll need no clue I hope you think I'm good enough I hope you think I'm girl enough I hope you believe in chemistry for two

I tell you I hope you think I'm girl enough I hope you think I'm good enough I hope you believe in chemistry for two

I really do

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## GOOD ENOUGH





Good Enough - 5 - 2



Good Enough - 5 - 3







### GOOD LOVE

Words and Music by GARY TAYLOR

Ah, many days it goes unspoken But this desire never seems to go away It's gonna take much more than hope to bring you close I think I'll pray

I hear you say you've got a lot to give up And there is so much more this heart of mine can take If what you have to bring to me is positive you send it right away Right away

#### Chorus 1:

I want to know what good love feels like
Good love, good love
I want a love that's sure to stand the test of time
I want to know what good love feels like
Good love, good love
Morning, noon and night, forever all my life
Good love, good love
Good love, good love

There is a void that stands between us And it seems it's getting harder to relate Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine Life this way

#### Repeat Chorus 1:

#### Chorus 2:

I want to know what good love feels like Good love, good love I want a love that's sure to stand the test of time I want to know what good love feels like Good love, good love Hear me when I say, bring it to me baby

Babe, you're the man I hear you say you are I don't quite understand why loving me is so hard Never have I felt the need to be this close Words cannot say, heaven only knows

#### Repeat Chorus 1 to Fade

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## GOOD LOVE

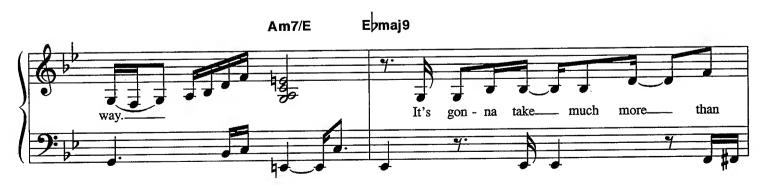
Words and Music by GARY TAYLOR







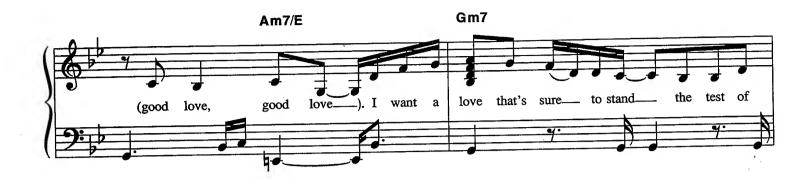




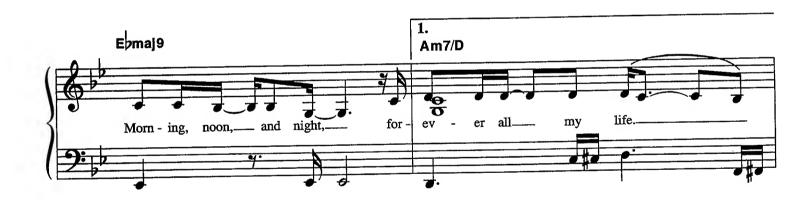
Good Love - 4 - 1



Good Love - 4 - 2









Good Love - 4 - 3



There is a void that stands between us, And it seems it's getting harder to relate. Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine life this way. I want to know what good love feels like (good love, good love).

I want a love that's sure to stand the test of time. I want to know what good love feels like (good love, good love).

Hear me when I say, bring it to me baby.

(To Bridge:)

## JUST BECAUSE

Words and Music by MICHAEL O'HARA, SAMMY MCKINNEY and ALEX BROWN

When I think about how much I'm loving you
No limitations, no set of regimented rules
I'm amazed how much this love has touched my life
And the commitment that we share is a welcome sacrifice

This must be, sweet fatal attraction My life long date with destiny Love this strong, it just brings out the passion I never knew was here in me

I love you just because
I love you just because
Just because I do, my darlin'
Emotions more than words can help me say
I love you, baby, just because you're you
Just because you're you

You're a diamond in my mind, a treasure found A precious gem to me you're so nice to have around I'm so glad I took the path that led to this And it's amazin' loving you, I'm doin' things I never thought I'd do

I don't know, there ain't no explanation Of why I'm sharin' love at last this way I won't try to work out all my reasons I'll use these words to simply say

I love you just because
I love you just because
Just because I do, my darlin'
Emotions more than words can help me say
I love you, baby, just because you're you

I love you just because I love you just because Just because I do, my darlin' Emotions more than words can help me say I love you, baby,

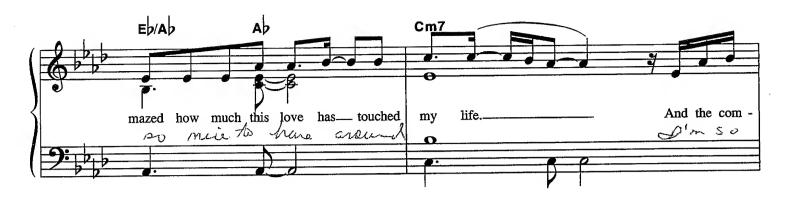
Could it be that there's more to this than meets the eye Maybe that's the reason why All I know is when I'm in your arms it feels all right I'll hold you tight and I come alive

I love you just because
I love you just because
Just because I do, my darlin'
Emotions more than words can help me say
I love you, baby, just because you're you

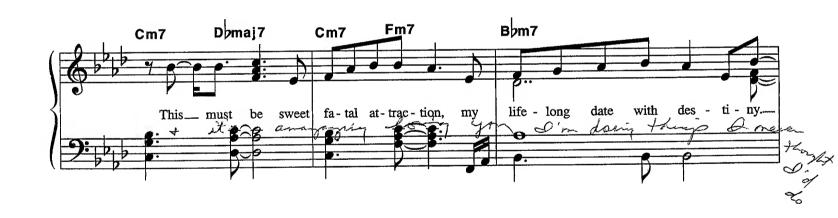
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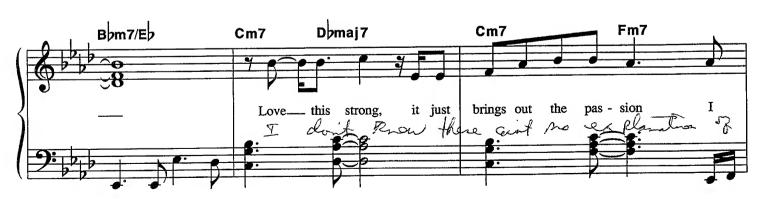
# JUST BECAUSE











Just Because - 4 - 2

I won't try to work out all my reason, I'll use these work to singly say



Just Because - 4 - 3



Verse 2:

You're a diamond in my mind, a treasure found,
A precious gem to me; you're so nice to have around.
I'm so glad I took the path that led to this,
And it's amazing, loving you, I'm doing things I never thought I'd do.
I don't know, there ain't explanation of why I'm sharing love at last this way.
I won't try to work out all my reason; I'll use these words to simply say:

(To Chorus:)

#### PRICELESS

Words and Music by GARRY GLENN

When you ask me how I feel about you I tried to find the word that best describes you You are to me like a precious jewel, so valuable, baby You shine so bright, lighting up my life with pure delight

You are so priceless to me And loving you has made me see With your love, I can do most anything

You are so priceless to me You're like the first rainbow in spring Your love comforts my heart with joy you bring

I envision you and me in love together Coming closer as we share each day together

Give me all the gold in the world It will not replace this love, baby Take a diamond ring worth a lot What we got, cannot be bought or sold

You are so priceless to me
And loving you has made me see
With your love, I can do most anything, baby
Yes sir
You are so priceless to me
You're like the first rainbow in spring
Your love comforts my heart with joy you bring me

Never had a lover, babe My baby, my baby, my darlin'

You are so priceless to me And loving you has made me see With your love, I can do most anything

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# PRICELESS

Words and Music by GARRY GLENN





### LEADME INTO LOVE

Words and Music by STEVE LANE & LARRY PRENTISS

We may never understand
If love just happens or it's planned
We must believe our spirits know somehow
Baby, we can't stop the falling we feel now oooh

New emotions overflow

And now this heartbeat wants control oooh baby

If the love was meant to be so strong

Something close to magic's coming on

Take my heart and lead me into love Light the way for me Without your touch I cannot see Lead me into love I'm deep in the miracle of you oooh

When we feel excitement rise We'll share the secrets found in lover's eyes You'll speak the words of love, I'll speak them too Baby, ain't no stoppin' me when I'm near you

Honey take this heart and lead me into love Light the way for me Without your touch I cannot see Lead me into love I'm deep in that miracle of Deep in that miracle, I love you, baby yeah

Uh huh, I keep tellin' you Uh huh, bring it to me baby I need you to bring me the miracle, baby Honey won't you

Let our hearts meet
I know that I'm no good, baby
'Til you show me
That your desire is complete and I'm all yours oooh

Baby, baby, baby show me Teach me the way, baby Deep in the miracle of

C'mon show me child Shine, shine your light on me I can't see without you I can't move without you I can't live without you

Baby, shine, shine your light on me Sweet light of love, baby Deeper, baby, deeper, baby

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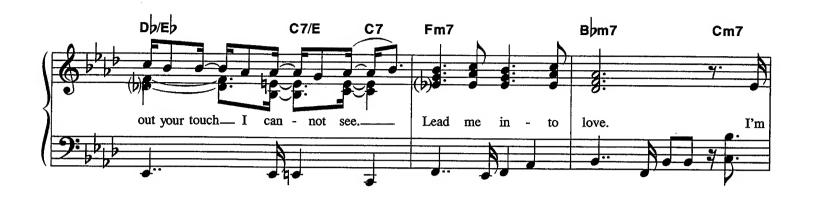
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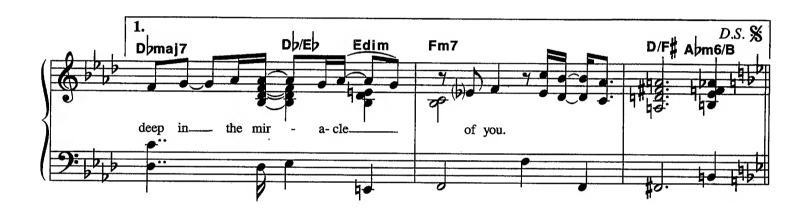


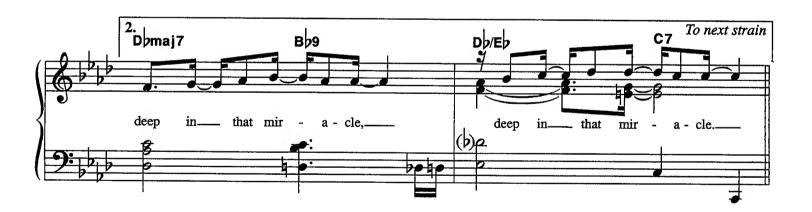
Lead Me Into Love - 5 - 1

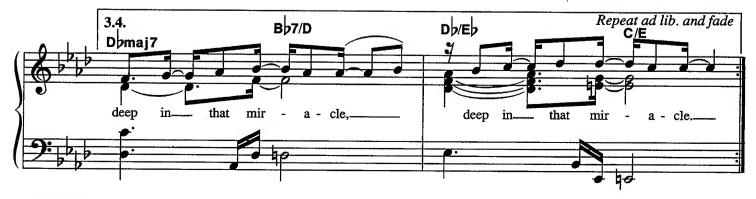


Lead Me Into Love - 5 - 2











Lead Me Into Love - 5 - 4



#### Verse 2:

When we feel excitement rise
We'll share the secrets found in lover's eyes.
You'll speak the words of love; I'll speak them, too;
Baby, ain't no stoppin' me when I'm near you.
Honey, take this heart and...

(To Chorus:)